IT FIT SOMEHOW

I WAS LOOKIN' FOR YA!
HEY, JUN!
WHEN I SAW A SIGHT THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SO STRANGE,
I WAS SUR-PRISED
WE CAN FINALLY GO TO SCHOOL TOGETHER!
THAT IT DIDN'T FEEL OUT OF PLACE AT ALL.

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GIRL, NOUN. SEE ALSO: WOMAN, FEMALE

TL NOTE: ON PANEL 2 AND 4, TOMO USES "ORE", WHICH IS TYPICALLY USED BY MALES FOR PERSONAL PRONOUN. SHE USES ATASHI IN PRESENT TIME

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BRA DEBUT

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE A GIRL!
THIS JOKE IS...
ﾌﾖｯ
BOOBS!?
AH, WELL.
I AM KIND OF A GIRL, SO THEY'LL GET BIGGER
THEY WEREN'T THERE YESTER-DAY!!
THEY STARTED GETTING BIGGER AROUND 4TH GRADE... THEY GET IN THE WAY, SO I'VE BEEN BINDING THEM.
SINCE I'M STARTING MIDDLE SCHOOL, MOM KEPT SAYING I SHOULD CUT THAT OUT AND JUST WEAR A BRA...
DON'T RUB THEM!!!
ALSO, WHY ARE YOU OKAY WITH THEM GETTING TOUCHED!?
IF SOMEONE ELSE DID IT, I'D CLOCK THEM, BUT IF IT'S YOU, I DON'T MIND..
YOU SHOULD MIND!

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THE RINGLEADER

HUH?
JUNICHIROU THOUGHT YOU WERE A BOY?
YUP.. CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT?
EVEN THOUGH WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS FOR ALMOST TEN YEARS...
I THOUGHT HE WAS A DUMB BOY, BUT TO THINK IT WAS THAT BAD.
WELL, TO TELL THE TRUTH...
SINCE MY BREASTS STARTED GETTING BIGGER..
I DIDN'T REALLY WANT HIM TO KNOW, AND I KIND OF HID IT...
BUT TO THINK THAT HE ACTUALLY DIDN'T NOTICE...
I WAS HAVING FUN GOING ALONG WITH IT, BUT...
TOMO IS POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS AT SCHOOL, YOU KNOW.
OH, CUT IT OUT, DUMMY!
THAT'S TOMO FOR YOU!
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S MY FAULT...

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A MEATHEAD IN THE END

SO, WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO NOW?
WHAT IS THERE TO DO?
YOU CAN'T HAVE THINGS STAYING AS THEY ARE WITH THAT BOY, CAN YOU?
IT'S PROBABLY FINE!
NOTHING CHANGES!
BOY OR GIRL, NEITHER OF US WOULD WORRY ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
I'M NOT SURE IT'LL BE THAT SIMPLE...
TO BE HONEST, THOUGH, LOSING OUT IN MUSCLE MASS WILL BE LONELY...
WELL, IF YOU KEEP THAT ATTITUDE, YOU MIGHT BE FINE.

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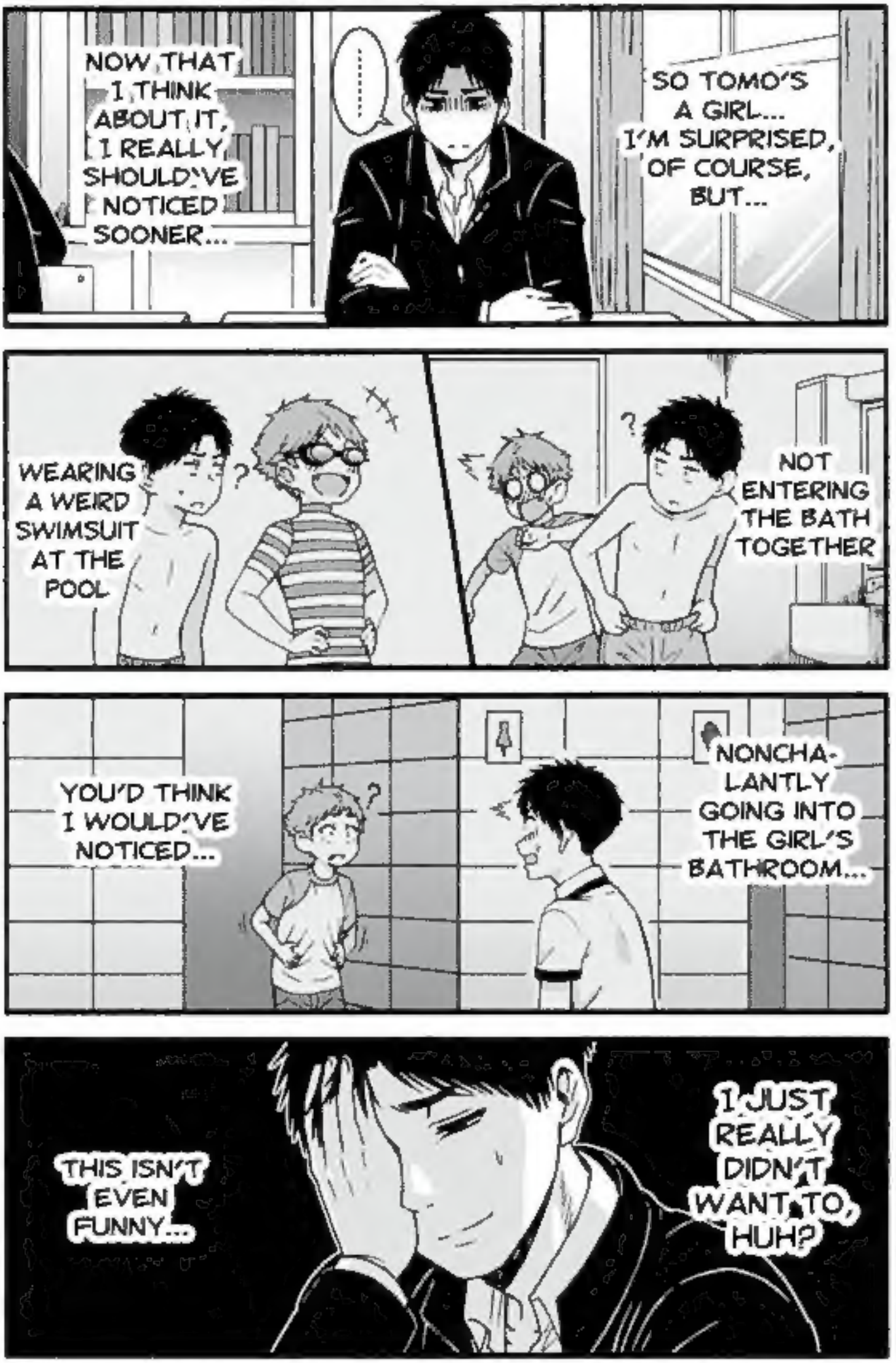
BECAUSE I REALLY WANTED TO BEAT YOU


NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I REALLY SHOULD'VE NOTICED SOONER...
SO TOMO'S A GIRL... I'M SURPRISED, OF COURSE, BUT...
WEARING A WEIRD SWIMSUIT AT THE POOL
NOT ENTERING THE BATH TOGETHER
YOU'D THINK I WOULD'VE NOTICED...
NONCHALANTLY GOING INTO THE GIRL'S BATHROOM...
THIS ISN'T EVEN FUNNY...
I JUST REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO, HUH?

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WHEN A BOY AND GIRL ARE TOGETHER

HEY, KUBOTA-KUN!
WELL, EVEN IF SHE'S A GIRL, IT DOESN'T MATTER. HOW COULD THINGS POSSIBLY CHANGE...
KUBOTA-KUN, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY CLOSE WITH AIZAWA-SAN FROM CLASS C.
YOU TWO DATING?
!?
.....
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT FACE?
I SEE
SO THAT'S HOW

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NO WAY

I KNOW SHE'LL SAY SOMETHING WEIRD...
I MADE IT OVER TO CLASS C, BUT IT'S KIND OF HARD TO CALL OUT TO HER...!
SHE'S GETTING THE SAME THING!?
ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH KUBOTA-KUN FROM CLASS A?
HEY, AIZAWA-SAN,
HA HA!
WITH HIM? NO WAY!
EH!? WHAT'S WITH THAT?
HE DOESN'T EVEN THINK OF ME AS A GIRL.

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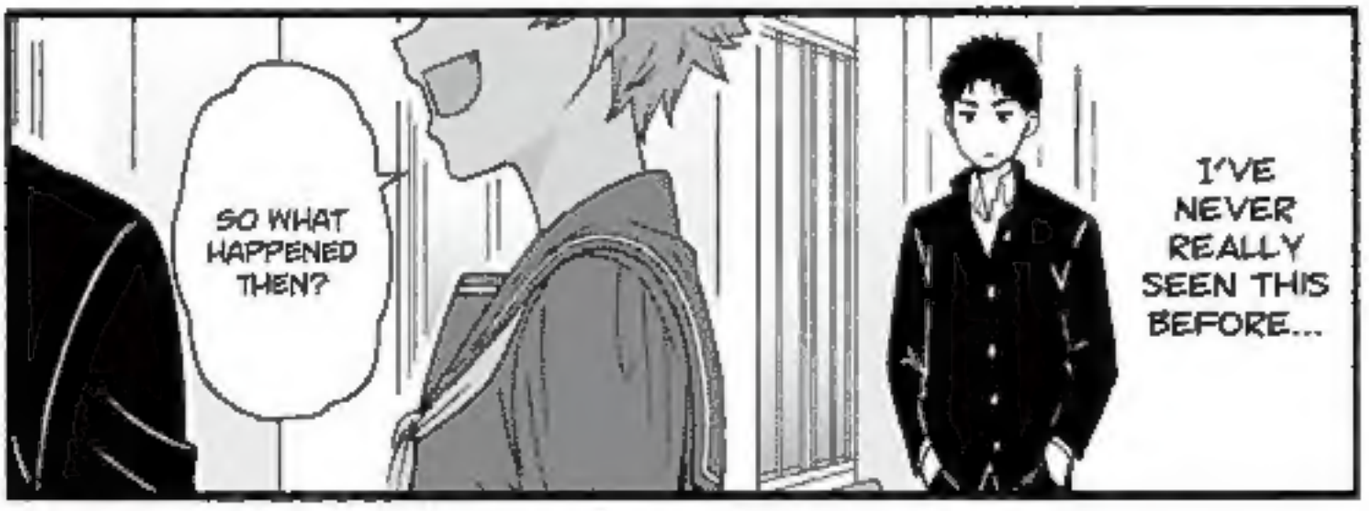
WHY THE HELL *DO* I CARE



I ONLY SAW HER TALK TO THE ADULTS AT THE DOJO...
WE WENT TO DIFFERENT SCHOOLS BEFORE, AND IT WAS ALWAYS JUST THE TWO OF US PLAYING TOGETHER.
GUNDOU ONLY SHOWED UP SOMETIMES...

IMMEDIATE REGRET